be estopped by its own record from assert-

ing such right. I have heretofore deemed it due to the ruth of history to place on record a recital of Virginia's claims upon the equity of the United States-adding then what I now repeat-that the best way to get help from others is first to belp ourselves; and that the cheapest and easiest, as well as the only means of getting rid of the debt, is to pay it off.

THE READJUSTMENT OF THE DEET.

Soon after the beginning of my official term, when the monetary pressure upon the country was distressing, and when the difficulty of meeting the deficiency in the treasmry was greatest, the General Assembly, on inv recommendation, authorized a conference with the public creditors in order to a readjustment of the debt. In recommending the conference, and in conferring with hat body. I proposed that all the contractg parties to the debt should agree to redjust it by postponing so much of the acruing interest as exceeded the then disosable means of the State-thus providing or the payment of such reduced interest for the time being as would correspond with our reduced revenues, and for such greater interest afterwards as would steadily ncrease with our increasing population and esources; "so that the whole debt and interest, as originally assumed and agreed, should be paid in full ultimately, and ust as soon as the best ability of the state would permit." By this arrangement it was designed to secure every possible relief to our own people, to place classes of the creditors on the same footing by paying the same interest to all, to establish relations of confidence and goodwill between them and the State, to restore the public credit, and to put an end forever to the financial controversy which has already subjected Virginia to losses far greater in amount than the debt itself. No ountenance was given to the idea that a reduction of the debt, or the excision of any part of it, was possible to be enforced by the action of the State without the free pasent and concurrence of the creditors. as conference was held on the 10th day of November, 1874, and its members reprented a great and commanding proportion the public debt. After deliberation that body agreed by unanimous vote to the exet substance of the plan I had proposedhat is to say, it consented to postpone one hird of the interest on the debt for ten vears. The action of the conference was unsmitted to the General Assembly with be earnest recommendation that it should e carried into effect by appropriate legisla-

since gone on with increasing injury to the It can hardly be doubted that the State ould obtain from the creditors now the me concessions which were tendered in 1874, if the same necessity existed to justify em. But that necessity has passed away. The condition of the State has improved, is proving, and will continue to improve; and I have forborne to recommend an inrease of taxation simply because the preat revenue laws, with due correction of rective details, will suffice henceforth to cet all the obligations of the State.

non. But that recommendation, unfortu-

nately, failed, and the debt agitation has

Moreover, a readjustment which is feaside and honorable, and which is far better can any heretofore proposed, can now be d. So soon as the State shall proceed to av. as it can, full current interest on the at: so soon as its ability and its will to entinue such full payment shall be made dent to the financial world. I have assures that then a loan may be negotiated at ir per cent., and in a sum sufficient for thing the whole of the debt. By taking i- direct road to readiustment, the buren of the debt will be diminished one third in a way consistent with the traditional reputation of Virginia.

creditor conforms to the standard of nancial honor which is assented to or aculesced in voluntarily by both the coneting parties. It would be as unwise as ajust for either party to seek concessions n any other than a spirit of conciliation or ithout an equal regard for the rights of Any attempt at readjustment by the yment of coercion or menace would at itself; but if either party to a contract ald succeed by such agencies in wresting om the other the surrender or abatement any preexisting right or security he be taking the goods of another gainst his will by putting bim in fear.

I will not countenance the supposition at any one could favor a relidjustment innded to operate exclusively upon the seand class or non-tax-receivable debt. so as reduce either the principal or interest ereof. Such a readjustment would direct elf to less than one third of the debt and the weakest class of the creditors, conting largely of widows and orphans in ir own midst. Such a readjustment would istrate the spirit which shrinks from an weak. Instead of so indefensible a licy, every consideration of justice and demands that we place this aker class of creditors upon the footing those who are most favored. The broadest and highest considerations nly must rule this whole question.

are parts of one whole, and ong exist without the other. government is but the reflex of the egree, upon credit, and ulon public credit. No State has dishing capital, prostrating enterprise, overishing its people, and drying up the irces of its revenue. The preservation a healthy sentiment of State pride and bulwark of free institutions. is the cheapest defence of order, the rest means of staying vice and crime, and f giving purity and prosperity to the peogovernment. The loss of that ntiment brings with it the saddest of all for a State-the decay of its men. t now that our future financial character to be formed and established before the world, it is upon a higher level that of any merely domestic interest Virginia must stand. It is true that principal of the debt was borrowed and eived in gold, or its equivalent, and that - true that if the means thus borseen unwisely spent or wickdered, no complaint would lie at door of the creditor, nor would the obation of the State be less on that account. no matter what the origin, or considerm, or history of the debt, no matter who present holders, it is enough for us to vihat Virginia, as now constituted, gave and plighted her honor for its No matter how onerous the obmand its fulfilment. We will pay the bt because it is right, as well because the inherited glory of the Commonwealth. close my official labors in this connecon with the noble words which John C. aboun uttered for South Carolina, and I lapt and apply them, expecting the apreving response which they cannot fail to mmand: "I pledge myself that my State ill pay every dollar she owes, should it ake the last cent, without inquiring wheher it was spent wisely or not. Should I this by possibility be mistaken-should tarnish her unsullied honor and bring seredit on our common country by resing to redeem her plighted faith, which hold to be impossible—deep as is my devo ion to her, and mother as she is to me, I

FORMS BY WHICH THE TAXES MAY BE RE-

DUCED. Against constant opposition, and in spite a many discouragements, I bave, from the (4) of my induction into office until now, persistently urged that by the enforcement of proper reforms the debt could be carried and the taxes at the same time reduced. In my inaugural and in all my annual meslages, as well as in repeated special communications to the General Assembly, I

every branch of the public service-a system, not formal or pretentious, but thorough, practical, rigorous, and inexorable, which will bring the cost of the govern area and resources of the State." It is impossible any longer to misunderstand or to doubt the fact that the people of Virginia intend to enforce such a system. The conflict may be prolonged, but its issue is not doubtful. Nevertheless, let us fairly consider the obstacles to be overcome.

No matter what measure is proposed for the reduction of public expenses, it is sure to be assailed and resisted by the potent opposition interested against it. In every such case a conflict, which is apt to be acrimonious, arises between those who pay for the support of the government on the one hand and those who live upon the governintelligent, compact, and alert. Its more more directly elsewhere, and it moves with the power and celerity of an army in resists. The lunatic asylums are encu government or an army, has over an unorganized mass-an advantage increasing with he always increasing difficulty of concert and cooperation; and this, again, increasing with the number and dispersion of those on whose concert and cooperation success depends." It is natural that the official corps, looking to public employment for life-long support, should become honestly and essential to the welfare of the State, curables. should at length regard office as at once a profession and a property, and should reincreasing offices strike their roots so deeply into the body politic, from which they draw their nourishment, that an attempt to eradanciently said to issue from mandrakes when

being uprooted from the earth. It may as well be taken for granted that intelligence of those who propound the meaure by satirizing the littleness of the items which enter into the sum of any systematic retrenchment. But it must be borne in mind that the great amounts which constiis the particles of money which make up the volume of taxes and expenditures that institution.

does not look after the almost innumerable small payments which, added together, constitute the sum-total of expense. The greatest political philosopher yet produced by English-speaking race taught and emphasized the truth that no statesmanship is jects. The government has neither the legal nor moral right to draw from the tax-paver any sum whatever beyond its just needs. The ablest southern statesman of the last generation said: "I hold that those who make are entitled to what they make against all the world except the government, and against it except to the extent of its legiting and constitutional wants; and that for make and constitutional wants; and that for make and constitutional wants; and that for make and constitutional wants; and that for the transfer of criminal business from the transfer of criminal business. Advances are diverted at all, is wholly without foundation.

All other school funds have been accounted for and paid over by the Auditor as they were demandable, except a balance which unavoidably fell in arrears during the last fiscal year, but which is now no longer due. Some months ago, when the matter of transporting material and that for the country former, Fariar Bernstellows, Fowler, Frauer, Cartes, Onless, Rollows; All other school funds have been accounted for and paid over by the Auditor as they were demandable, except a balance which unavoidably fell in arrears during the last fiscal year, but which is now no longer due. Some months ago, when the matter of transporting material and that for the construction of the canal between the same terming. Should the water-line be extended to Clifton Forge, the railway alongs, the construction of the canal between the same terming. Should the water-line be extended to Clifton Forge, the railway alongs, which were demand. Cartes, Capter, Chartes, Chartes, Capter, Chartes, taxing-power is limited to well-defined obrobbery. But the facts are startling, which show

the government. Let the ordinary ex- the State treasury on this account. penses for the last eight years be compared bursements on account of free schools, and or temporary expenses, the remaining larger, and its taxable values were almost maintaining the present county-court systwice as great as they are now. And yet tem has ceased to exist, and its continuance quirement of the Constitution is that the twice as great as they are now. And yet tem has ceased to exist, and its continuance government shall be maintained for holding the smaller and poorer State now expends as a charge upon the people will be as inbefore the war, when Virginia flour-principles which govern the administration ished in the plenitude of its wealth, of justice, that the same person should at even to what the government of the larger judge and the gown of the lawyer should and richer State cost before the war, the be worn alternately by the same person, saving will more than cover any possible whatever his abilities or his worth. The The character of the State is but future deliciency in respect to the debt. If judge decides in his own court the collected and paid into the treasury separation of their individual character. gation of their individual characthe success of all good and great entor the development and enrichtor the development and enrichses for the development and enrich-sources that it did before the war, then the new champions one side of a question reservoir, and the law provides that all discommunity depends, in a present annual revenues will suffice to pay in one court which he has to deterbroken its faith except at the cost of nual surplus in the treasury of some hun- public duty are utterly incompatible with quire specific sums to be paid for the supof this increase of taxes and burthens, I vacancies in their own body, and serving

to be cut down:

economy?

ay confer benefits commensurate with their over to the sensor lind its quota in lan, no I have declined to fill any of the vacant and life true that if the means would have been left for I have declined to fill any of the vacant and field officers of the left of the means would have been left for one of control and field officers of the left of the means would have been left for one of control and field officers of the left of the means would have been left for one of control and field officers of the left of the means would have been left for one of the left of the means would have been left for one of the left of the means would have been left for one of the left of the means would have been left for one of the left of the means would have been left for one of the left of t and private business elsewhere, then it can- tices who once adorned the county courts. ation, yet justice, duty, right, and faith the capitol would easily accomplish twice reproduce the men. pudiation of the least part of it would States, with all its alleged extrava- should be made to contribute to a reduction ght the historic virtue of the people and gance and all its vast means, is said of taxes. The present revenue system has continuous daily labor than is required and it is necessary to equalize its burthens sacrifice of the life of the State? in like cases by this impoverished State. It in order to lessen the rate of taxation with other departments of business, far more brium to the government. It is the opinion laborious employment, which occupies of the Auditor of Public Accounts that the them, daily, almost or quite double the State receives not more than one third of number of hours now actually given to the revenue to which it is entitled from this office-work at the capitol. The clerical bu- source. The assessor is not properly reprivate business. Some who are most exmatters affirm that if any commercial house may be controlled more by his own volition ganic law. The constitutional obligation to population is less dense than that of the were to conduct any accounting business. were to conduct an accounting business than by the force of the law or the value of maintain it is not questioned. In all my New England States. Were to conduct an accounting business than by the force of the law or the value of official relations to that system I have engovernment devised to guard the treasury ration and county for equalizing the assessofficial machinery which is not only need- worked well in some other States. less and expensive, but productive of con- I again recommend the appointment of a fusion. But for this departure from the State board for equalizing the assessments original system, it is my opinion that such of lands.

Among other heavy burthens on the treasury which can at once be reduced are those imposed by the penitentiary and the lunatic asylums.

The crowded condition of the penitentiary and its consequent expensiveness are due to no increase of crime among the neoment on the other. The official corps is ple, but to the fault of the law which ranks as felonies such offences as ought to be punactive members are unitized and animated | ished as misdemeanors, summarily and inexpensively. I commend to your attention of a portion of the press or in caucuses or General Assembly which embodies a partial

The lunatic asylums are encumbered with ing every effort to abolish the places or to many cases of senile lunacy. These unforcurtail the emoluments upon which any of tunate beings are inoffensive and tractable their number subsist. On the other hand, imbeciles, who are known to be incurable, the opposing tax-payers are dispersed, and It is said that many of them have compefrom necessity they strive with close con- tences or belong to families well able to take At present they so block up the asylums as to exclude cases of recent and curable insanity. The result is that persons of the

ver the cause, it is certain that in time their to the asylums. As many as three guards compromised by special acts of Assembly, quantities of tobacco from marts to which have been employed for the imaginary ser- and they were generally received after it legitimately belonged. As an insect is vice of assisting an officer in bringing a many delays, often extending through years, said to make more noise than a hundred manacled and helpless prisoner to the peni- and then in irregular instalments and in great beeves quietly grazing, so in this inicate any of them recalls the fatal shricks tentiary. In many cases of the sort the os- small sums. The cost and expense of col- stance the din raised by the exceptional the State. Where fugitives from justice, bad been received, and, therefore, the trade, and it led to the injury of all the real no measure of retrenchment will ever be often of desperate character, have been division of such scattering receipts be- and meritorious interests concerned. urged forward without being combatted at brought back from other and even distant tween the general treasury and the school There is no cause, and there ought to be favorite means of thwarting such a measure been my rule not to allow any guard; and could be reached which was necessary to and trade in connection with the great staliamentary weapons. It seeks to decry the his prisoner safely and without difficulty thus that, while these numerous small hall tions, the real interests of the town and the to the place of his destination. No guard ances were awaiting the final returns neces- country are one; they are indissolubly intrained officers of that institution should 732.26-the highest amount ever reached by Our noble and beautiful metropolis is largely lowed, not mileage, but necessary expenses cumulated imperceptibly to the officer who the sales and the manufacture of tobacco. ernment are made up of little sums, so that merely. The plainest dictates of humanity had them in charge. Even the Superintend- In order to accomplish its great destiny it require that the pitiable lunatic should be cut of Public Instruction was wholly igno- is necessary to build up the interests on of the experienced assistants or nurses of Legislative committees examining the busi- on this subject should be such as to pro-

cases, amounted during the last fiscal year law required the Auditor to pay over to the and good-will between them. to \$177,940.65. During the ten years pre- school fund its proportion of each separate THE CANAL AND ITS CONNECTIONS WESTeconomies of government. Moreover, the notable that, with no perceptible increase any of its officers in the premises. The work of constructing it is already done. A mate and constitutional wants; and that for felt. It may be proper for the State to pay the government to take one cent more is the expenses in felony cases, but there is that the increased and unnecessary expenses ties and corporations; and, if this change suited, and for a brief period it was impos- coal- and iron-belts, by bringing the best of this government are such as cannot be be made, it is safe to assume that the crimisible to raise money enough to meet the deores and the cheepest fuel into juxtaposidisguised by any sophistry or derision. nal charges will be so reduced by local in- mands of the government and at the same tion, by utilizing the incalculable natural They are augean accumulations which may fluences and interests that no county would time pay the school quota in full. The balnot be allowed to continue with any just then pay as much directly through its own ance thus due and unpaid to the school

There are economic and other still more war. Leaving out of the calculation all dis- revision of the judicial system. Almost the whole of the complicated litigation resultthe public debt, and all extraordinary ing from the war has been ended. The business of litigation has been largely and lastordinary expenses for the current sup- ingly reduced. It is now generally conport of the government during the last ceded, and it is undoubtedly true, that if eight years have averaged \$1,055,976.50 an- the present circuits be rearranged so as to expenses were \$588,236.37 annually. The all causes, both civil and criminal, without spent for precisely the same purpose gravest objections. It violates the essential vously and enormously increased since the cient and honored county-court system of When these facts are all considered, justices, originally appointed and commisand when it is proposed to lop off the whole sioned by the Executive, themselves filling ask by what authority is the movement without pay. The gratuitous, disinterested, charged to a false, a narrow, or a niggard and independent nature of the service, caused it to be honored and aspired to, and particular expenses which can and ought example exerted the finest conservative in-

present the tax-payer is virtually a law unto ence of the government. incurred by the State the result would be stringent revision. In permaneutly reformswift and inevitable bankruptcy. An in- ing it care should be taken to lodge the vestigation will also disclose the fact that power of appointing commissioners of the the perfect and symmetrical system of checks revenue either with the Auditor or the and balances which the founders of the courts. The plan of a board in each corpo-

bave strenuously insisted upon the adop-ion of a specified system of economy and and which appears to have gone on through alcoholic and malt liquors needs many minor

1874, would never have been possible. 174 themselves: such as amendments rectifying The task of rectifying and retrenching the disproportion of the tax on wholesale the official service of the government is one dealers, and authorizing the Auditor to emof great responsibility and difficulty, and ploy the direct agencies necessary to a uniment down and conform it to the dwarfed it involves long and arduous labor. With form enforcement of the law. While I pregreat deference I suggest that the legisla- ferred and recommended what was known tive sessions are so crowded with multifari- as the gallon tax on sales of spirits, as cal- the final adjournment when no time was ing word." It was the sanction of a cusous and urgent matters that legislators can- culated to raise more revenue and to pronot spare the time required for such an duce less resistance, yet the present system undertaking. A special commission ought has been put in actual operation at considto be carefully created with authority to erable expense; it has as vet received none present session. employ the best experts and practically to but an imperfect and insufficient trial; and reorganize the departments at the capitol. now when, in spite of all difficulties and disadvantages it gives promise of great useful- Public warehouse for the future by lease, vice has been worthy of Virginia, then it ness as a revenue measure, it would be in the last degree improvident and unwise to action. repeal it without fairly and thoroughly test-

ing its merit. speedily and finally solved. Almost any The oyster-beds are the absolute property and the ungranted domain of the Commonwealth, and, though annually affording imbe an improvement upon the incongruous mense profits to non-residents and others and easily-evaded provisions of the law who maraud upon them at will, they are which I have been called on to enforce practically untaxed and yield no revenues heretofore. On taking charge of this office litical influence, either through the columns the bill matured at the last session of the The gross annual yield of this State pro- I found that the allowance of febates to perty, thus virtually given away, is not less middlemen at the warehouse, and other ally or justly tax the estates which its citi- sellers of tobacco paid more for its inspecits own for the unlicensed, gratuitous, and this way expenses, aggregating a large -unlimited possession and use of non-resi- amount, were needlessly imposed upon the cert. The relation between these contending care of them, and all of them can be suita- dents and all others. If the oyster-beds are producer and seller. It was not for me forces is illustrated by "the great advan- bly and humanely provided for either at not to be preserved and taxed as other pro- to say whether the requirements of the tage which an organized body, such as a their homes or in the public almshouses, perty, then they should be disposed of at law were right or wrong; but to exeonce either by lease or sale. THE SCHOOL PUND

tensible guards are parties travelling really lecting each of these claims could only be agitator was louder and more noticeable for mileage and pleasure at the expense of ascertained after the last instalment upon it than the actual movements and demands of yet in those cases a single officer conveys show the net sum to be so divided. It was ple of tobacco. In this, as in all other relaought ever to be allowed for conveying a sary to an accurate settlement and division, terwoven together, and the progress of each convict to the penitentiary; but one of the they grew to the aggregate sum of \$382 .- depends upon the prosperty of the other. solely perform that duty and should be al- such arrears in the past-and thus they ac- dependent for its commercial growth upon and there can be no retrenchment which ances certified by the courts in criminal which it was conducted. No provision of trade, by fostering confidence, cooperation. ceding the war, when the State was more fragment of delinquent revenue at the time populous and the courts more numerous, of its receipt. The auditing department

felt. It may be proper for the State to pay the expenses in felony cases, but there is no good reason why all other criminal charges should not be borne by the counties and corporations; and, if this change be made, it is safe to assume that the criminal charges will be so reduced by local indicates and charges will be so reduced by local intenses and interests that no county would then pay as much directly through its own treasury as it now pays indirectly through the State treasury on this account.

The state treasury of the State treasury of the State treasury on this account.

The state treasury of the st regard for the purity or the efficiency of treasury as it now pays indirectly through fund at the end of the last fiscal year, on year, was \$60,000. That balance has since with the corresponding expenses before the important considerations which call for a been not only met but overpaid by \$15,000. so that nothing now remains due the school fund except the residue of such arrears as grew out of the delinquent taxes from 1870 to 1874, as stated above.

As the balance of \$60,000 was due the school fund on the revenues collected in nually. During the ten years ending with equalize the labor of the judges, the circuit after the expiration of that fiscal year? I the year 1860 inclusively, the same ordinary and nustings courts can henceforth dispatch answer: Because an absolute necessity and the clearest requirements of law made it the expenses were \$588,250.3, annually. The all causes, both ever and criminal, without area of the State was then more than a third delay or inconvenience. Every reason for duty of the Auditor to withhold it for the the water-line. The capital stock of the time being. The supreme object and reevery year upon the current support of its congruous as useless. Moreover, in its society together and preserving the existgovernment \$467,740.13 more than was very structure the system is liable to the ence of the State. Another and important lic schools shall be maintained. If the existence of the government cease for want of prosperity, and power. If the cost of once be a judge, a practicing attorney, and the means of supporting it, then the school governing the present comparatively small a dispenser of county patronage. Those system as well as all other public interests and impoverished State be brought down principles forbid that the ermine of the must go down in the general catastrophe; for the maintenance of the schools depends upon the prior maintenance of the government. Moreover, the school fund is not full interest on the debt, support the gov- mine as a judge in another court. Such warrants of the Auditor and not otherwise. ernment and the schools, and leave an an- mixed relations of personal interest and Out of this general fund, the statutes redreds of thousands of dollars besides. Let the sanctity, the reverence, the disinterest- port of the schools, and in terms equally It be remembered, in this connection, that edness, and the absence of all bias, which mandatory they require other specific sums municipal and county expenses, the latter are the indispensable muniments of the ju- to be paid for the support of the courts, now including the salaries of county judges, dicial office. In my judgment it is as prac- the departments, and the public instituhave also, as a general thing, been grie- ticable as it is desirable to return to the an- tions. In this instance it happened, for a brief period, that there was not money enough in the treasury for paying in full the several sums thus appropriated by different provisions of law-all equally mandatory in their terms. To make all the payments required by law was plainly impossible; and thereupon the Auditor drew I proceed to point out briefly some of the elevated the men who performed it. Their his warrants upon the treasury for so much fluence among the people under whose eye pensable for keeping up the existence of approaching International Exposition, pro-The accounting business of the govern- the service was performed. The system was the government, and all that was left he vided for by joint resolution of the last ment has run into needless enlargement and a great factor in moulding that distinctive turned over to the school fund. What else General Assembly, because their service cancomplication, and the capitol is overcrowd- character for Virginia which notably has ated with unnecessary officials and employes. tracted the respect of mankind. A similar over to the school fund its quota in full; no ration of my official term. arranged and distributed as to necessitate concurred in the opinion then expressed, the lunaties to be deprived of food, the in- paper. The appointment of titled comcontinuous labor on the part of all em- that this system was the conception of a mates of the penitentiary and jails to be manders for that mythical army-though tween the State and the school system, is it of that great and honorable body of the peo-

which are illegitimate. If, under the cir-

deavored to support it fairly, efficiently, and in the spirit of its founders. But if it is to On the 16th day of August last, Raleigh override all other interests, however mo-mentous or sacred; if the claims of the ed this life; and at an early day thereafter general treasury constitute a lien paramount | successor. to every other; if the existence of the gov-

supremacy the better. The legislation of the last General As- service, and for proud devotion to Virginia, At this point Mr. Poctor returned to the

reform-"a system which will go through | many months until its discovery in January, | improvements which will readily suggest | sembly on this subject embodied the sub- | few equals and no superior survived him. | House and announced that the committee recommended, and although it contained possession of the Commonwealth. patent defects which caused doubts as to when its operation would begin and as to submitted for my approval on the eve of what is known as "the privilege of a partleft for legislative revision and correction, tom which thus permitted them, upon leavview to the amendment of its details at the or explain whatever in their official action

> In view of the uncertainty of the law it but to leave that subject open for legislative

The long-continued controversy in regard

than twenty millions of dollars. It is diffi- practices plainly prohibited by law, were cult to see how the State can constitution- prevalent. By these practices planters and zens have purchased or inherited, and at tion than was actually charged and received the same time throw open this rich domain of on that account at the warehouses; and in cute them. Without hesitation I discarded former incumbents and appointed new From the year 1870 to 1874 that part of inspectors, pledged to comply with the latter class are kept in the jails with burti the school fund which was payable out of law strictly and to reform the prevalent ful surroundings and at great expense to delinquent taxes fell imperceptibly into ar- abuses. The few who were disapthe State, and there they become incurable rears. No arrears of that description have pointed in the dispensation of Executive for want of skilled attention. The lunatid subsequently arisen. Their accumulation patronage raised an outcry which was misasylums are institutions for the scientific during the period named was occasioned as taken through the country for opposition treatment and cure of insanity, and they follows: The delinquent revenues-such on the part of commercial circles in the convinced that their places are important were never designed to be bospitals for in- 25 were due by defaulting officers, then nu- cities to the just reforms thus inaugurated. merous-had to be collected by suit; were Although those circles really did nothing In this connection. I again call attention subject to all the delays incident to litiga- in the premises, yet this clamor of the disto the oppressive and unjust charges im- tion in the courts; were, in some cases, satisfied few produced misunderstandings sent every effort to curtail official service as posed upon the State in the transportation wholly lost by reason of the insolvency of and jealousies between production and trade personal wrong to themselves. But what- of convicts to the penitentiary and lunatics the defendants; were in others abated or which had the effect of diverting large

every step by this associated influence. Its | States, under Executive requisition, it has fund was postponed until a final settlement | no pretext, for conflict between production in one sense insignificant and trifling. It conveyed to the proper asylum only by one rant of their existence until January, 1876. which its growth depends, and legislation ness of the Auditor's office had regularly mote equally and impartially both the coun-The criminal expenses, being the allow- reported their approval of the manner in try and the town, both production and a Clerk.

WARDLY BY RAIL.

The policy of building a railway through these expenses averaged \$65.429.31 annual- acted with perfect integrity and good faith the great mountain pass between Buchanan ly. Such an increase of criminal charges throughout the progress of these transact and Clifton Forge is no longer the subject is as unnecessary as it is inexcusable. It is tions, and no censure can justly attach to of controversy. About three fourths of the of crime, such charges have greatly in- charge that these funds were diverted to few months hence, when completed, it will creased since the transfer of criminal busi- creditors, or were ever diverted at all, is be found to have been built at a third of the receipts from an important source of reve- found to have been the best possible investprompt legislation is necessary to insure these results.

The canal has been seriously injured by the late calamitous flood. While the injuries are not irreparable, the canal company order, and if he so decided? is without the means and ability requisite for restoring the property. I recommend that all the able-bodied and disposable convicts of the penitentiary be employed at State expense in repairing and improving the canal and completing the railway to Clifton Forge. The State virtually owns canal company is \$12,400,000, of which the State owns \$10,400,000, and of this last sum \$7,400,000 is preferred stock. The State can better afford to feed and clothe the convicts, while giving increased value to this largest of its properties, than to support them in idleness or in unprofitable employ-

ment at the penitentiary. It is presumed no objection will be made to amending the charter of the railway com- proper to adopt the rules of the last House pany so as to extend the time within which temporarily. Then if any gentlemen dethe road is required to be completed-the sired to offer any amendments they could propriety and expediency of such a measure | do so. being self-evident.

MISCELLANEOUS. I recommend all such constitutional legislation for the relief of the unfortunate suffer-

The able report of the State Commissioner of Fisheries is commended especially to your attention.

Where appointments to places of honor or emolument are conferred at this office it would seem proper that the appointees should be selected by the particular Executive during whose term and under whose supervision they are expected to serve. Acting upon this rule I have declined to encroach upon the province of my successor by choosing appointees to serve during his term, except where the law or the public interest plainly dictated a different course. Accordingly, I have forborne to appoint commissioners to represent the State at the

to the improved methods now very gene- the foremost statesman of that country the continuing the existence of the governrally adopted; if it were made subject to sheet-anchor of its liberties. The illustrious ment. Was he to treat the school interest as militia. What is known as the reserve direct supervision and guarded against in- body of statesmen who assembled here to paramount to all others, to surrender to it the militia is an imaginary organization, not terruption and intrusion; if it were so re- form a constitution forty-eight years ago balance in the treasury, and thereby cause enrolled, and without existence even upon ployés throughout office hours, and if the wisdom which had "snatched a grace benumber of hours were the same, or any yound the reach of art." It is idle to say three machinery of the government to be called for by no just reason and by no public wisdom which had "snatched a grace between the same, or any yound the reach of art." It is idle to say the machinery of the government to be thing like the same, prescribed for public that the men are wanting to replace the jus- stopped? In an issue of life and death be- lic interest, and it offends the sensibilities not be doubted that half the official force at the capitol would easily accomplish twice the capitol would easily accomplish twice the sense will of itself the schools survive? Does the bond of the capitol would easily accomplish twice the sense will of itself the schools survive? Does the bond of the capitol would easily accomplish twice the sense will of itself the schools survive? Does the bond of the capitol would easily accomplish twice the sense will of itself the schools survive? Does the bond of the capitol would easily accomplish twice the sense will of itself the schools survive? Does the bond of the capitol would easily accomplish twice the sense will of itself the schools survive? Constitution so nominate and exalt any one better titles by beroic deeds in actual war. Even the Government of the United trenchments I have recommended which of the departments over all others that it The necessity for returning to the ancient forfeit, cut its pound of flesh from the body the living voice; for readjusting the means to exact of its employes longer and more defects which make its operation unequal; of the State nearest its heart, even at the of supporting the public schools so as, with-The charge that this action of the Auditor | conflict between property and public eduwas in any sense a diversion of the school cation; for prohibiting special legislation

other employes seek, in commercial and of assessing personal property is an oppro- fund is unwarranted and gratuitous. To in every case where a general law is possiuses which are legitimate to other uses overgrown proportions and expenses of both State and local governments-these, cumstances, the Auditor had responded to and many other considerations, demand that the Constitution shall be reformed throughsiness of the government ought to be done sponsible to State authority, and the system he did, he would have perpetrated a crimiresponding work by the fair competitors of perty-holder against the government. At well as necessary for maintaining the exist-The school system is the creation of or- wholly unsuited to any community whose

school department upon the funds in the I appointed James G. Field, Esq., as his

The untimely death of the late incumbent ernment, in an emergency, is to be depend- was as great a calamity as the Commonent upon the leniency of that department, wealth could then have sustained in the loss then the sooner it is shorn of its dangerous of a citizen. For genius, for learning, for classic eloquence, for incorruptible purity, for shining efficiency and fidelity in official trell.

stance of important provisions which I had Let his memory be enshrined as a cherished CONCLUSION.

Not a few of my predecessors, in closing how it affected preexisting law, yet, being their final messages, availed themselves of it was deemed wise to approve it with a ing the Chief Executive office, to vindicate had specially provoked criticism of their motives. I shall bonor the custom by dehas been considered best not to dispose of the liberately breaking it. If my official sershall speak for itself. If in aught I have been unfaithful or unequal to the high trust which a generous people committed to my to the inspection of tobacco should be charge, then no words of ingenious defence or apology can change faults into virtues. well-defined system of inspections would All I know, and all I dare affirm, is that, having stood steadfast against every opposer for what I have adjudged to be truth and the right, I shall now deliver into the hands of my successor the crown of Virginia's honor without a stain or spot or blemish sullying its purity or its traditional JAMES L. KEMPER.

A discussion arose as to the number of copies of the message that ought to be printed. Mr. Jonyson said no family should be without it. He therefore thought a large number should be printed.

Mr. HURT, of Pittsylvania, said that we have the best newspaper-men in Virginia, and that they would doubtless print the message in full. On motion of Mr. MARSHALL the Senate adjourned until 12 M. to-morrow.

The House was called to order at 12 by the clerk, Mr. J. Bell Bigger. Prayer by Rev. Moses D. Hoge, D. D. The roll was called and it was ascertained

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

that 126 members were present-a quorum. The Clerk announced that the first business in order was election of SPEAKER. Mr. T. T. FAUNTLEROY, Jr., of Frederick, put in nomination Judge H. C. ALLEN, of

Shenandoah. Mr. T. T. POPHAM, of Rappahannock econded the nomination.

Mr. JOSEPH R. ANDERSON, of Richmond, said he should vote for Judge ALLEN. Though not an old man, he knew of Judge ALLEN's family for three generations. He knew that gentleman's brother, J. J. Allen, president of the Court of Appeals, and he knew he was an illustrious man. He knew Judge Allen, the candidate, was a man of ability and character, and he hoped he would make a good Speaker.

The vote was then taken, and Judge AL EN received all except two-Messrs. PETER . CARTER and Ross HAMILTON, who voted for Mr. HANGER.

Judge ALLEN was then declared elected, and Messrs. FAUNTLEROY and BOHANNON were appointed to conduct him to the chair. Judge ALLEN, upon taking his seat, re turned thanks for the honor conferred upon him, and said he would endeavor to dis charge the duties with rigid impartiality. Mr. ANDERSON, of Richmond, then moved that the House proceed with the election of Mr. LOVELL nominated the present in-

cumbent, Mr. J. Bell Bigger. Mr. Pophaw said he understood that had been the custom to nominate the Clerk in caucus. He did not know whether this was the right way to proceed. The SPEAKER said the gentleman was not in order.

Mr. Poffiam then moved an adjournment. Upon this motion Mr. Annerson called the aves and noes, which were taken, as follows:

and Mr. Speaker-98. The motion was then declared lost.

Mr. Anderson asked the Speaker if the election of Clerk was the next business in The SPEAKER: Yes, sir.

The acting clerk was then directed to call the roll. Mr. Bigger received all the votes cast-126-and was declared elected. Messrs. LOYELL and ANDERSON were appointed a committee to inform Mr. Bigger

of his election. Mr. Bigger returned thanks in a short speech. Mr. CRANK then said he presumed, from the action of the House, that it was their

intention to proceed with business without further organization. Mr. W. M. WALKER moved that the rules of the last House of Delegates be adopted. Mr. Bocock suggested that it would be

Dr. Robinson moved that the rules of

1860 be adopted instead of those of last ses-The SPEAKER said this and all other similar propositions would go to the Committee

on Rules. The rules of the last House were then adopted temporarily.
Mr. CRANE asked if it was now in order to proceed with the nomination of officers of the House.

The SPEAKER: Yes, sir. Mr. CRANK then nominated the late incumbent. General James C. Hill, for Sergeant-at-Arms. General Hill received all of the votes east,

and was declared elected. The SPEAKER then announced the appointment of the following pages: W. D. Southall, of Hanover: H. J. Cabell, of Amherst; W. D. Winston and John Meanly, of Richmond.

appointed te wait upon the Governor and inform him that the General Assembly was ready to receive from him any communication that he saw fit to send. Mr. KYLE moved that the number

Mr. Bocock moved that a committee be

pages be reduced to three. Referred to Committee on Rules. Dr. Robinson moved that the House go

into the election of First Doorkeeper. Mr. McCaull moved to postpone. Lost. Mr. ANDERSON seconded the motion to proceed with the election of First Doorkeeper. The House then went into the election of

that officer. Mr. Davis, of Pittsylvania, nominated Mr. D. N. Hines. Mr. BARBOUR nominated Mr. A. B. Cot-

trell, of Henrico. General TALIAFERRO nominated Carter N. Harrison, of Richmond city. At this point Mr. Massey, from the Sente, reported that body ready for business. Mr. McMullan seconded the nomination

of Mr. Cottrell. Mr. HUNTER placed in nomination Colone Turner Ashby, of Alexandria. Mr. WITTMAN seconded the nomination of Mr. Cottrell.

Mr. KEYSER seconded the nomination of Mr. Cottrell. Mr. MARSHALL, from the Senate, announced that that body had agreed to a

joint resolution for a committee to wait ipon the Governor. On motion of Mr. Bocock, the resolution was concurred in. The SPEAKER appointed the following members a committee to wait upon the Gov-

ernor: Messrs. Bocock, Wallace, Mor-FETT, E. C. ROBUSON, and H. H. HARRISON. The SPEAKER laid before the sembly the abstract of the votes for Governor and members of the Legislature. Mr. WALKER, of Chesterfield, spoke in favor of the election of Mr. Cottrell as First

Doorkeeper. Mr. KYLE nominated Mr. Isaac Webb. Mr. WATSON spoke in favor of Mr. Hines. Mr. ANDERSON spoke for Mr. Harrison. Mr. HINER urged the claims of Mr. Cot-

had waited on the Governor, who had expressed his gratification at the assemblio of the Legislature, and stated that he would in a few moments send in his annual mes-

Mr. Green spoke in favor of the claims of Colonel Ashby.

The Governor's message was at this point eccived. The reading thereof was sus-

pended, and it was laid on the table and ordered to be printed. The vote was then taken for the selection of First Doorkeeper.

The first ballot resulted as follows: Ashby, 14; Hines, 13; Cottrell, 54; Webb, 14; Harrison, 31. Whole number of votes cast, 124; necessary to a choice, 64. Mr. Hines was dropped. Second ballot: Cottrell, 63; Webb, 7:

Ashby, 15; Harrison, 38. Mr. Cottrell was declared elected. For Second Doorkeeper Mr. A. O. Sullivan was nominated. The rules were suspended and he was elected unanimously. Mr. Echols moved that in the selection of committee clerks one of them be a stenogra-

pher, and for the position he named Rev. J. . Lafferty. Referred to the Committee on The House then adjourned to meet at 12 M. to-day.

DEATHS.

Died, on the 5th instant, at 5 o'clock P. M., of scarlet-fevor, WILLIE F. COLLINS, youngest child of D. B. and Annie E. Collins, in the fourth year of his age.

The friends and acquaintances of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral THIS (Thursday). AFTERNOON at 3 o'clock from his parents' residence, 301 west Clay street.

Died, at her residence, in this city, at 5 o'clock P.
M., December 5, 1877, Mrs. ANNA F. FILETCHER,
wife of R. C. Fletener: aced forty-eight years.
The funeral will take place from Trinity Methadist Episcopal church THIS (Thursday) AFTERNOON at 3 o'clock. The friends of the family and
those of William M. Kresee are invited to attend.
Portsmouth and Baltimore papers please copy.

MEETINGS.

A LL ROYAL ARCH MASONS are cordially invited to attend a stated convocation of RICHMOND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER, No. 3, at the Masons - Hall, on Franklin street, THIS (Thursday) EVE-NING, December 6th, A. D. 1877, R. A. M. 2407, at

By order of the M. E. H. P.

GEORGE T. KEESEE.

MASONIC NOTICE.—The members of St. JOHN'S LODGE. No. 36.
A. F. and A. M., are requested to attend a stated mee, ing at St. Alban's Hall THIS (Thursday) EVENING at 6 o'clock. All Master Masons in good standing are frace really invited.

By order of the W. M.
WALTER MOORE, Secretary, DECEMBER 6, A. L. 5877. A. D. 1877. de 6-1ts

THE MEMBERS OF NEIL-SON ENCAMPMENT, No. 2. IN-DEPENDENT ORDER ODD-FEL-LOWS, are requested to attend a regu-lar meeting THIS (Thursday) EVENING at 7% o'clock. Every member is carnestly requested to attend, as there will come before the Encampment business of importance to each member.

business of importance to each member. T. L. COURTNEY, Scribe. DECEMBER 6, 1877. de 6-1t* VIRGINIA LODGE, No. 2. K. of P.—A stated meeting will be held THIS (Thursday) EVENING at 7 o'clock at Conforma Hall. Full attendance requested. Nomination of officers for the ensuing term. All Knights in good standing are fraternally invited. By order of the C. C. H. E. DOWNING.

H. E. DOWNING. THE "YOUNG LADIES' SEWING SO-A CHETY" OF THE LEIGH-STREET CHURCH propose having a SUPPER at the Tabernacle, corner of Twenty-sixth and Broad streets, on THURSDAY NIGHT, December 6th. The patronage of re public is earnestly solicited. Price of Supper, 50c.

RICHMOND AND DANVILLE RAILROAD CO., RICHMOND, Va., November 14, 1877. THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE A STOCKHOLDERS OF THE RICHMOND AND DANVIELE RAILROAD COMPANY will be held at the office of the company, corner of Bank and Tenth streets, in the city of Richmond, on WEDNESDAY, December 12th proximo, at 12 o'clock

de 6-11*

The books for the transfer of stock will be closed from the 22d instant until after the day of meeting.
RICHARD BROOKE.

GRAND SECRETABY'S OFFICE.
RICHMOND, December 4, 1877.

THE GRAND ANNUAL CONVOCATION OF THE GRAND ROYAL
ARCH CHAPTER OF VIRGINIA will be
head in St. Alban's Hall, in this city, on
THURSDAY, 13th December, 1877, at 6 o'clock
P. M. By order of the M. E.
WILLIAM H. LAMBERT, G. H. P.
WILLIAM B. ISAACS, Grand Secretary.

WILLIAM B. ISAACS, Grand Secretary.

CHESAPEARE AND OHIO RAILBOAD. RECEIVER'S OFFICE.
RICHMOND, VA., November 5, 1877. OTICE.-THE ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE.—THE ASSUME AND CONTROL OF THE STOCKHOLDERS OF THE CHESDAY, the Sth of December, 1877.

J. GARRETT. Cashier.

RICHMOND, December 4, 1877. THE GRAND ANNUAL COMMU-THE GRAND ANNUAL COMMUNICATION OF THE GRAND LODGE
NACIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED
MASONS OF VIRGINIA will be held at St. Alban's
Hall, in this city, on MONDAY, December 10,
1877, at 6 o'clock P.M. No visitors will be admitted until after the Grand Lodge is organized and
opened. By order of the W.M.
RICHARD PARKER, Grand Master.
WILLIAM R. ISANES, Grand Secretary. WILLIAM B. ISANCS, Grand Secretary, de 4-td

AMUSEMENTS.

SELECT TOURNAMENT
AND BALL OF THE SEASON.

Prizes consist of CROWN, cost of which is
\$15: SADDLE and BRIDLE, valued at \$30. Successful Knights reserve choice of prizes.
Tilting to take place near the store of Davis & Co., new turnpike, FRIDAY, December 7th, promptly at 1 P.M.
BALL and SUPPER at the residence of Massena Beaziey, Esq. Beaziey, Esq.
All wishing to compete can do so by calling on

J. E. BROADUS.
DAVID HAYNES.
WILLIAM L. GARRETT.
H. C. WYATT, 920 Main street;
or at store of Davis & Co. RICHMOND MOZART ASSOCIATION.

regular weekly soirce, will take The regular weekly (Thursday) EVENING at 8% o'clock. Admission only by membership- or invitation-cards, which must be presented at the door. mbers can obtain invitation-cards on application at WYATT's music-store, No. 920 Main street. no 15-Th

FAIR UNDER THE AUSPICES OF

THE LADIES OF
ST. JOHN'S GERMAN CHURCH
for the benefit of church building-fund, at
SANGER HALLE,
Seven's street between Broad and Marshan,
ommencing MONDAY, December 3, 1877.
Tickets, admining one, 10c. de 5-41*

COURT ORDER.

N THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA, RICHMOND, DECEMBER, 5. 1877—IN THE MATTER OF GEORGE D. PLEASANTS VS. MARY E. HERBERT AND WILLIAM P. NUCKOLS, IN EQUITY.—It appearing from affidavit filed in the paper; that the defendant, William P. Nuckols, do appear at the clerk's office of this court on the FIRST DAY OF FEBRUARY, 1878, and plead, auswer, or demur to the complyinant's bill.

And the residence of raid William P. Nuckols being unknown, it is ordered that publication of this order for six successive weeks in the Riehmond Dispatch newspaper be taken in the Riehmond service of this order.

ervice of this order.

A true copy—Teste:
de 6-Th6w JOHN R. POPHAM, Clerk.

MILLINERY GOODS. N ORDER TO REDUCE HER

VERY LARGE STOCK OF MILLINERY. MRS. F. HUTZLER SELLING AT AND BELOW COST. Call early and secure bargains at 525 Broad street. Largest assortment la the city. de 6-1m

CHRISTMAS GOODS. CHRISTMAS GOODS.

GELATINE, CITEON.
SEEDLESS and LONDON LAYER-RAISINS,
FIGS, MIXED NUTS, six pounds for \$1;
COOKING-WINE.
SWEET CIDER. &C.. &C.
GEORGE A. HUNDLEY & CO.,
528 Broad street.

FANCY GOODS, NOTIONS, &c.

THE LATEST NEWS. For the next thirty days ISAAC HJRSCH will re-

tail at wholesale prices his entire stock of FANCY GOODS, NOTIONS, and GENTLEMEN'S FURNISHING GOODS. Call soon and secure your bargains. 1202 Main street. no 26-1m

MINERAL WATERS, &c.

BETHESDA WATER.

A fresh supply of this celebrated WATER, direct from the suring at Wankesha, Wis., is just to hand. As a specific for any disease affecting the kidneys or urinary organs it is unsurpassed.

For sale on daught or in larger quantities by GEORGE SCHEN, no 14-1m Main and Eleventh streets.

no 14-1m